

## ON A MODIFICATION OF AXIOMS OF GENERAL RELATIONS

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*Abstract.* Basic concepts concerning binary and ternary relations are extended to relations of arbitrary arities and then investigated.

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## 0. INTRODUCTION

The relations dealt with in the paper are considered in the general sense as systems of maps. More precisely, by a relation we understand a subset  $R \subseteq G^H$ , where  $G, H$  are sets and  $G^H$  denotes the set of all maps of  $H$  into  $G$ .  $G$  and  $H$  are called the carrier and the index set of  $R$ , respectively. Relations with well-ordered index sets, the so-called relations of type  $\alpha$ , are studied in [8], while relations with general index sets are studied in [9], [10], [5], [6] and [11]. In this paper, the fundamental concepts concerning binary and ternary relations are extended to general relations and discussed.

We denote by  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of all positive integers, for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote  $(n) = \{m \in \mathbb{N}; m \leq n\}$ . In the case of a finite set  $H$  of cardinality  $k$  we will not distinguish between maps of the set  $H$  into the set  $G$  and  $k$ -tuples of elements of the set  $G$ . For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote by  $S_n$  the set of all permutations of the set  $(n)$ ;  $\text{id}$  denotes the identical permutation of the set  $(n)$ .

For any map  $f: H \rightarrow G$  and any subset  $K \subseteq H$ , we denote by  $f|_K$  the restriction of  $f$  to  $K$ . The abbreviation w.r.t. will be written instead of the phrase “with respect to”.

## 1. OPERATIONS WITH RELATIONS

**1.1. Definition.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $H$  be a set. Then the pair  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  is called an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$  if  $\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}$  is a sequence of  $n+1$  sets satisfying

- (1)  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n+1} K_i = H$ ,
- (2)  $K_i \cap K_j = \emptyset$  for all  $i, j \in (n+1), i \neq j$ ,
- (3)  $\text{card } K_i = \text{card } K_j$  for all  $i, j \in (n)$ , and  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$  is a sequence of  $n-1$  bijections such that  $\varphi_i: K_i \rightarrow K_{i+1}$  for all  $i \in (n-1)$ .

1.2. Remark. The concept of an  $n$ -decomposition is used here and in [5] in different meanings.

**1.3. Definition.** Let  $G, H$  be sets, let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then the relation

$$E_{\mathcal{K}} = \{f \in G^H; f|_{K_i} = f|_{K_{i+1}} \circ \varphi_i \text{ for all } i \in (n-1)\}$$

is called the diagonal w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

1.4. Remark. Let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . If  $K_{n+1} = H$  or  $n = 1$ , then, obviously,  $E_{\mathcal{K}} = G^H$ .

**1.5. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation, let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then we define the relation  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} \subseteq G^H$  by  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \{f \in G^H; \exists g \in R:$

$$\begin{aligned} f|_{K_i} &= g|_{K_i} \text{ if } i \in (n), i = \psi(i) \text{ or } i = n+1, \\ f|_{K_i} &= g|_{K_{\psi(i)}} \circ \varphi_{\psi(i)-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i, \\ g|_{K_i} &= f|_{K_{\psi(i)}} \circ \varphi_{\psi(i)-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i \text{ if } i \in (n), i < \psi(i), \\ f|_{K_{\psi(i)}} &= g|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_{\psi(i)}, \\ g|_{K_{\psi(i)}} &= f|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_{\psi(i)} \text{ if } i \in (n), i > \psi(i). \end{aligned}$$

Then  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$  is called the  $(\mathcal{K}, \psi)$ -modification of the relation  $R$ .

1.6. Remark. Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation, let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Clearly, then

- (1)  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \text{id}} = R$ ,
- (2)  $\emptyset_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \emptyset$ .

1.7. **Example.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $H = \{1, 2\}$  (i.e.  $R$  is binary),  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^3, \{\varphi_1\})$ ,  $K_1 = \{1\}$ ,  $K_2 = \{2\}$ , let  $\psi$  be the permutation of the set  $\{2\}$  defined by  $\psi(1) = 2, \psi(2) = 1$ . Then  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = R^{-1}$ . Hence, in this case, the  $(\mathcal{K}, \psi)$ -modification of a binary relation coincides with its standard inverse.

1.8. **Definition.** Let  $R_1, \dots, R_n \subseteq G^H$  be relations,  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then we define the relation  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq G^H$  by  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}} = \{f \in G^H; \exists f_i \in R_i \text{ for all } i \in (n) \text{ such that}$

$$\begin{aligned} f|_{K_i} &= f_i|_{K_i} \quad \text{for all } i \in (n), \\ f|_{K_{n+1}} &= f_i|_{K_{n+1}} \quad \text{for all } i \in (n), \\ f_i|_{K_j} \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i &= f_j|_{K_i} \quad \text{for all } i, j \in (n), i < j. \end{aligned}$$

$(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}}$  is called the composition of  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

1.9. **Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation, let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then we put  $R_{\mathcal{K}^1} = R$ ,  $R_{\mathcal{K}^2} = (R \dots R)_{\mathcal{K}}$ ,  $R_{\mathcal{K}^m} = (R_{\mathcal{K}^{m-1}} R \dots R)_{\mathcal{K}} \cup (R R_{\mathcal{K}^{m-1}} R \dots R)_{\mathcal{K}} \cup \dots \cup (R \dots R R_{\mathcal{K}^{m-1}})_{\mathcal{K}}$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 3$ .  $R_{\mathcal{K}^m}$  is called the  $m$ -th power of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

1.10. **Example.** Let  $R_1, R_2 \subseteq G^H$  be relations,  $H = \{1, 2\}$  (i.e.  $R_1, R_2$  are binary),  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^3, \{\varphi_1\})$ ,  $K_1 = \{1\}$ ,  $K_2 = \{2\}$ . Then  $(R_1 R_2)_{\mathcal{K}} = R_1 R_2$ . Hence, in this case, the composition w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  coincides with the standard composition of binary relations.

1.11. **Remark.** Let  $R_1, \dots, R_n \subseteq G^H$  be relations, let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . If  $K_{n+1} = H$ ,  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}} \neq \emptyset$ , then, evidently, there exists an  $f \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n R_i$ .

1.12. **Notation.** Let  $H$  be a set, let  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then  $\mathcal{K}^* = (\{K_i^*\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i^*\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  is the  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$  defined by

$$K_i^* = \begin{cases} K_{i+1} & \text{for all } i \in (n-1] \\ K_1 & \text{for } i = n, \\ K_{n+1} & \text{for } i = n+1, \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi_i^* = \begin{cases} \varphi_{i+1} & \text{for all } i \in (n-2], \\ \varphi_1^{-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_{n-1}^{-1} & \text{for } i = n-1. \end{cases}$$

Further, for any  $\psi \in S_n$ ,  $\psi^*$  denotes the permutation of  $(n]$  defined by

$$\psi^*(i) = \begin{cases} \psi(i+1) - 1 & \text{if } i \in (n-1], \psi(i+1) \neq 1, \\ \psi(1) - 1 & \text{if } i = n, \psi(1) \neq 1 \\ n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**1.13. Proposition.** Let  $R, R_1, \dots, R_n \subseteq G^H$  be relations,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of  $H$ , let  $\psi \in S_n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

- (1)  $\mathcal{K} \underbrace{*\dots*}_{n \text{ times}} = \mathcal{K}$ .
- (2)  $E_{\mathcal{K}} = E_{\mathcal{K}^*}$ .
- (3)  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = R_{\mathcal{K}^*, \psi^*}$ .
- (4)  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}} = (R_2 \dots R_n R_1)_{\mathcal{K}^*}$ .
- (5)  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^m = R_{\mathcal{K}^*}^m$ .

Proof is obvious.

**1.14. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation, let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then we put  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^1 = R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}, R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^m = (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{m-1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 2$ .

1.15. Remark. If  $R \subseteq G^H$  is a relation,  $\mathcal{K} = (\{\mathcal{K}_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi, \chi \in S_n$ , then  $(R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi})_{\mathcal{K}, \chi} = R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi \circ \chi}$  need not hold in general.

If, for example,  $n = 3, K_1 = \{1, 2\}, K_2 = \{3, 4\}, K_3 = \{5, 6\}, K_4 = \emptyset, G = \{x, y, z\}, \varphi_1(1) = 3, \varphi_1(2) = 4, \varphi_2(3) = 5, \varphi_2(4) = 6, \psi(1) = 1, \psi(2) = 3, \psi(3) = 2, \chi(1) = 2, \chi(2) = 3, \chi(3) = 1, R = \{(x, y, z, x, y, z)\}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \{(x, y, y, z, z, x)\}, (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi})_{\mathcal{K}, \chi} = \emptyset$ , while  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi \circ \chi} = \{(y, z, z, x, x, y)\}$ .

**1.16. Proposition.** Let  $J$  be a nonempty set, let  $R, R_1, \dots, R_1, R'_1, \dots, R'_n, T, T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  be relations with the carrier  $G$  and the index set  $H$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Let  $k \in (n], m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

- (1)  $E_{\mathcal{K}} = (E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = (E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}^2$ .
- (2)  $(E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}} R E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R$ .  
 $\uparrow$   $k$ -th place
- (3) If  $R \subseteq E_{\mathcal{K}}$ , then (2) becomes the equality.
- (4)  $R \subseteq T$  implies  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$ .
- (5)  $(\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \bigcup_{j \in J} (T_j)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$ .
- (6)  $(\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \bigcap_{j \in J} (T_j)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$ .
- (7)  $R_i \subseteq R'_i$  for all  $i \in (n]$  imply  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq (R'_1 \dots R'_n)_{\mathcal{K}}$ .
- (8)  $R \subseteq T$  implies  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^m \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}}^m$ .

**Proof.** The assertions follow directly from the definitions of the operations. For example, let us prove (2) and (3). Suppose that  $\mathcal{K} = (\{\mathcal{K}_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$ .

(2) Let  $f \in (E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}} R E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}$ . Then there exist  $f_i \in E_{\mathcal{K}}$  for all  $i \in [n], i \neq k$ , and an  $f_k \in R$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f|_{K_i} &= f_i|_{K_i} \quad \text{for all } i \in [n], \\ f|_{K_{n+1}} &= f_i|_{K_{n+1}} \quad \text{for all } i \in [n], \\ f_i|_{K_j} \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i &= f_j|_{K_i} \quad \text{for all } i, j \in [n], i < j. \end{aligned}$$

We have  $f|_{K_k} = f_k|_{K_k}, f|_{K_{n+1}} = f_k|_{K_{n+1}}$ . Let  $i \in [n], i < k$ . Then  $f|_{K_i} = f_i|_{K_i} = f_i|_{K_k} \circ \varphi_{k-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i = f_k|_{K_i}$ . Let  $i \in [n], i > k$ . Then  $f|_{K_i} = f_i|_{K_i}$ , hence  $f|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_k = f_i|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_k = f_i|_{K_k} = f_k|_{K_k} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_k$ . Thus, again,  $f|_{K_i} = f_k|_{K_i}$ . We obtain  $f = f_k \in R$ .

(3) Let  $f \in R \subseteq E_{\mathcal{K}}$ . Put  $f_k = f, f_i|_{K_i} = f|_{K_i}, f_i|_{K_{n+1}} = f|_{K_{n+1}}$  for all  $i \in [n]$ . Further, put

$$f_i|_{K_j} = \begin{cases} f|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_{i-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_j & \text{for all } i, j \in [n], i > j, \\ f|_{K_i} \circ \varphi_i^{-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_{j-1}^{-1} & \text{for all } i, j \in [n], i < j. \end{cases}$$

Then  $f_i \in E_{\mathcal{K}}$  for all  $i \in [n]$  and  $f_k \in R$ . For any  $i, j \in [n], i < j$ , we have

$$f_i|_{K_j} \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i = f|_{K_i} = f|_{K_j} \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i = f_j|_{K_i},$$

so that

$$f \in (E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}} R E_{\mathcal{K}} \dots E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}.$$

**1.17. Remark.** In 1.16, part (2), the inclusion cannot be replaced by the equality unless  $R \subseteq E_{\mathcal{K}}$ . If, for example,  $n = 3, K_1 = \{1, 2\}, K_2 = \{3, 4\}, K_3 = \{5, 6\}, K_4 = \emptyset, G = \{x, y\}, \varphi_1(1) = 3, \varphi_1(2) = 4, \varphi_2(3) = 5, \varphi_2(4) = 6, R = \{(x, x, x, x, y, x)\}$ , then  $(x, x, x, x, y, x) \notin (E_{\mathcal{K}} R E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

**1.18. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ , let  $\psi \in S_n$  be the permutation defined by

$$\pi(i) = \begin{cases} i + 1 & \text{for all } i \in [n - 1], \\ 1 & \text{for } i = n. \end{cases}$$

Then we define  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}} = R_{\mathcal{K}, \pi}, {}^mR_{\mathcal{K}} = {}^1({}^{m-1}R_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 2$ .  ${}^mR_{\mathcal{K}}$  is called the  $m$ -th cyclic transposition of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

**1.19. Proposition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then

- (1)  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}} = {}^1R_{\mathcal{K}^*}$ .
- (2)  $E_{\mathcal{K}} = {}^1(E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

*Proof.* (1) follows from the fact that  $\pi^* = \pi$ . (2) follows from 1.16 (1).  $\square$

**1.20. Proposition.** Let  $J$  be a nonempty set,  $R, T, T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  relations with the carrier  $G$  and the index set  $H$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then

- (1)  $R \subseteq T$  implies  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq {}^1T_{\mathcal{K}}$ .
- (2)  ${}^1(\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j)_{\mathcal{K}} = \bigcup_{j \in J} {}^1(T_j)_{\mathcal{K}}$ .
- (3)  ${}^1(\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j)_{\mathcal{K}} = \bigcap_{j \in J} {}^1(T_j)_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

*Proof.* The assertions follow from 1.16 (4), (5), and (6).  $\square$

## 2. PROPERTIES OF RELATIONS

**2.1. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K} = (\{K_i\}_{i=1}^{n+1}, \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1})$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then  $R$  is called

- (1) reflexive (irreflexive) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  if  $E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R$  ( $R \cap E_{\mathcal{K}} = \emptyset$ ),
- (2) symmetric (assymmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$  if  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} \subseteq R$  ( $R \cap R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} = \emptyset$ ,  $R \cap R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi} \subseteq E_{\mathcal{K}}$ ),
- (3) transitive (atransitive) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  if  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq R$  ( $R \cap R_{\mathcal{K}}^m = \emptyset$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ),
- (4) complete w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  if  $f \in G^H$ ,  $f|_{K_i} \neq f|_{K_j} \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i$  for all  $i, j \in (n]$ ,  $i < j$  imply the existence of a  $\chi \in S_n$  such that  $f \in R_{\mathcal{K}, \chi}$ .

**2.2. Proposition.** Let  $J$  be a nonempty set,  $j_0 \in J$ . Let  $R, R_1, \dots, R_n, T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  be relations with the carrier  $G$  and the index set  $H$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then

- (1) If  $T_{j_0}$  is reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j$  is reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- (2) If  $R, R_1, \dots, R_n$  and  $T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  are reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j, R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$  and  $(R_1 \dots R_n)_{\mathcal{K}}$  are reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- (3) If  $R$  and  $T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  are irreflexive (symmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ), then  $\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j$ ,  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  and  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$  have the same property.
- (4) If  $T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  are transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  is transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

- (5) If  $T_{j_0}$  is atransitive (asymmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ), then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  has the same property.
- (6) If  $R$  is asymmetric (antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}$  has the same property.
- (7) If  $T_{j_0}$  is complete w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j$  is complete w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

**Proof.** The assertion (1) is evident, the others follow from 1.6 (2), 1.16 (1), (4)–(6), and (8).  $\square$

**2.3. Remark.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of  $H$ , let  $\psi \in S_n$ . It can be easily obtained from 2.2 (3) by induction that if  $R$  is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{m+1} \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^m$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**2.4. Proposition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ , let  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then:

- (1) If  $R$  is reflexive (irreflexive, transitive, atransitive, complete) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then it has the same property w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}^*$ .
- (2) If  $R$  is symmetric (asymmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$ , then it has the same property w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}^*$  and  $\psi^*$ .

**Proof.** The assertions follow from 1.13 (2), (3), and (5).  $\square$

**2.5. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then  $R$  is called

- (1) cyclic (acyclic, anticyclic) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  if it is symmetric (asymmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\pi$ ,
- (2) symmetric (asymmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  if it is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$  for any  $\psi \in S_n$  (asymmetric, antisymmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$  for any odd permutation  $\psi \in S_n$ ).

**2.6. Proposition.** Let  $J$  be a nonempty set,  $j_0 \in J$ . Let  $R, T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  be relations with the carrier  $G$  and the index set  $H$ . Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then:

- (1) If  $R$  and  $T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  are cyclic w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j$ ,  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  and  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}}$  are cyclic w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- (2) If  $T_j$  for all  $j \in J$  are symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcup_{j \in J} T_j$  and  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  are symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- (3) If  $R$  and  $T_{j_0}$  are acyclic (anticyclic) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  and  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}}$  have the same property.

- (4) If  $T_{j_0}$  is asymmetric (antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $\bigcap_{j \in J} T_j$  has the same property.
- (5) If  $R$  is complete w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}}$  is complete w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

*Proof.* The assertions follow from 2.2 (3), (5), and (6).  $\square$

**2.7. Remark.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Putting  $\psi = \pi$  in 2.3, we obtain that if  $R$  is cyclic w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  ${}^{m+1}R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq {}^mR_{\mathcal{K}}$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**2.8. Proposition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . If  $R$  has any of the properties defined in 2.5 w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then it has the same property w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}^*$ .

*Proof.* The proposition follows from 2.4 (2) and from the facts that  $\pi^* = \pi$  and  $\{\psi^*; \psi \in S_n\} = S_n$ .  $\square$

### 3. HULLS OF RELATIONS

**3.1. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Let  $(p)$  be any of the properties defined in 2.1 or 2.5. A relation  $Q \subseteq G^H$  is called the  $(p)$ -hull of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ) if

- (1)  $R \subseteq Q$ ,
- (2)  $Q$  has the property  $(p)$ ,
- (3) if  $T \subseteq G^H$  is any relation having the property  $(p)$  and such that  $R \subseteq T$ , then  $Q \subseteq T$ .

**3.2. Remark.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Let  $(p)$  be any of the properties defined in 2.1 or 2.5. Obviously, then  $R$  has the property  $(p)$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ) if and only if the  $(p)$ -hull  $Q$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ) exists and  $R = Q$ .

**3.3. Proposition.** Let  $R, T \subseteq G^H$  be relations,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Let  $(p)$  be any of the properties defined in 2.1 or 2.5,  $R_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$  ( $T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$ ) the  $(p)$ -hull of  $R$  ( $T$ ) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ). Then  $R \subseteq T$  implies  $R_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)} \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $R \subseteq T$ . We have  $T \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$ . Thus  $R \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$ . As  $T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$  has the property  $(p)$ , we obtain  $R_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)} \subseteq T_{\mathcal{K}(\cdot, \psi)}^{(p)}$ .  $\square$

**3.4. Definition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then we define  ${}^1R_{\mathcal{K}} = R$ ,  ${}^mR_{\mathcal{K}} = {}_{m-1}R_{\mathcal{K}} \cup ({}_{m-1}R_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}^2$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \geq 2$ .



3.5. Remark. Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Clearly, then  ${}_m R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq {}_{m+1} R_{\mathcal{K}}$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**3.6. Proposition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Let  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then the following relations exist:

- (1) the reflexive hull  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and we have  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = R \cup E_{\mathcal{K}}$ ,
- (2) the symmetric hull  $R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{(s)}$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$  and we have  $R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{(s)} = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i$ ,
- (3) the transitive hull  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and we have  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}_i R_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

Proof. (1) is evident.

(2) Put  $Q = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i$ . Clearly, then  $R \subseteq Q$ . We have  $Q_{\mathcal{K},\psi} = (R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i)_{\mathcal{K},\psi} = R_{\mathcal{K},\psi} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{i+1} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i \subseteq Q$  by 1.16 (5) and  $Q$  is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$ . Further, let  $T \subseteq G^H$  be symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$  and let  $R \subseteq T$ . By virtue of 1.16 (4) and using induction we obtain  $Q = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i \subseteq T \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} T_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^i \subseteq T$  due to 2.3.

(3) Put  $Q = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}_i R_{\mathcal{K}}$ . Clearly  $R = {}_1 R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq Q$ . Let  $f \in Q_{\mathcal{K}}^2$ . Then there exists an  $f_i \in Q$  for each  $i \in [n]$  such that  $f|_{K_i} = f_i|_{K_i}$  for each  $i \in [n]$ ,  $f|_{K_{n+1}} = f_i|_{K_{n+1}}$  for each  $i \in [n]$ ,  $f_i|_{K_j \circ \varphi_{j-1} \circ \dots \circ \varphi_i} = f_j|_{K_i}$  for each  $i, j \in [n], i < j$ . For each  $i \in [n]$  there exists a  $j_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f_i \in {}_{j_i} R_{\mathcal{K}}$ . Hence it follows that  $f \in ({}_{j_1} R_{\mathcal{K}} \dots {}_{j_n} R_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}$ . Denote  $j_0 = \max\{j_1, \dots, j_n\}$ . By 3.5, we have  ${}_{j_i} R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq {}_{j_0} R_{\mathcal{K}}$  for all  $i \in [n]$ . By 1.16 (7),  $f \in ({}_{j_0} R_{\mathcal{K}} \dots {}_{j_0} R_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}} = {}_{j_0} R_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq {}_{j_0+1} R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}_i R_{\mathcal{K}} = Q$ . Thus  $Q_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq Q$  and  $Q$  is transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Let  $T \subseteq G^H$  be transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and such that  $R \subseteq T$ . It is easy to prove by induction that  ${}_i R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq T$  for any  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence  $Q = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}_i R_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} T = T$  and we have  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = Q$ .  $\square$

**3.7. Proposition.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then:

- (1) If  $R$  is complete (symmetric, antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  (and  $\psi$ ), then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  has the same property.
- (2) If  $n \leq 2$  and  $R$  is transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  is transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .
- (3) If  $R$  is reflexive (irreflexive, complete) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{(s)}$  has the same property.
- (4) If  $R$  is reflexive (complete) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$  has the same property.

Proof. (1) follows from 1.16 (1), (5), 2.2 (3), (7), and 3.6 (1).

(2) Let  $n \leq 2$  and let  $R$  be transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq R$ . The case of  $n = 1$  is trivial. Let  $n = 2$ . Let  $f \in (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^2 = (R \cup E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}^2$  (by 3.6 (1)). Then there exist

$f_1, f_2 \in R \cup E_{\mathcal{K}}$  such that  $f|_{K_1} = f_1|_{K_1}, f|_{K_2} = f_2|_{K_2}, f|_{K_3} = f_1|_{K_3} = f_2|_{K_3}, f_1|_{K_2} \circ \varphi_1 = f_2|_{K_1}$ . If  $f_1, f_2 \in R$ , then  $f \in (R R)_{\mathcal{K}} = R_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . If  $f_1, f_2 \in E_{\mathcal{K}}$ , then, by 1.16 (1),  $f \in (E_{\mathcal{K}} E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}} = (E_{\mathcal{K}})_{\mathcal{K}}^2 = E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . If  $f_1 \in R, f_2 \in E_{\mathcal{K}}$ , then  $f|_{K_1} = f_1|_{K_1}, f|_{K_2} = f_2|_{K_2} = f_2|_{K_1} \circ \varphi_1^{-1} = f_1|_{K_2}, f|_{K_3} = f_1|_{K_3}$ . Hence  $f = f_1 \in R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . The case of  $f_1 \in E_{\mathcal{K}}, f_2 \in R$  is analogous. Thus  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  and  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  is transitive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ .

(3) and (4) follow from 1.14, 1.16 (1), (2), (4), (6), 3.1 (1), 3.4, and 3.6 (2), (3).  $\square$

**3.8. Corollary.** *Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then*

- (1)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ .
- (2)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ .
- (3) If  $n \leq 2$ , then  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ .

*Proof.* (1) As  $R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$ , we have, by 3.3,  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ , and again by 3.3,  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} \subseteq ((R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$ . By 3.7 (1),  $(R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\psi$ , consequently, by 3.2,  $((R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . Thus  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . As  $R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ , we have, by 3.3,  $R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$ , and again by 3.3,  $(R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . By 3.7 (3),  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$  is reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , consequently, by 3.2,  $((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$ . Thus  $(R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)}$ . Combining the two results, we obtain  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ .

(2) and (3) follow analogously from 3.3, 3.7 (4), (2), and 3.2.  $\square$

**3.9. Remark.** The inclusion in 3.8 (2) cannot, in general, be replaced by equality. If, for example,  $n = 3$ ,  $K_1 = \{1, 2\}$ ,  $K_2 = \{3, 4\}$ ,  $K_3 = \{5, 6\}$ ,  $K_4 = \emptyset$ ,  $G = \{x, y\}$ ,  $\varphi_1(1) = 3$ ,  $\varphi_1(2) = 4$ ,  $\varphi_2(3) = 5$ ,  $\varphi_2(4) = 6$ ,  $R = \{(x, y, x, x, x, y), (x, y, x, y, y, x)\}$ , then  $(x, y, x, y, x, y) \in E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ ,  $(x, y, x, x, x, y) \in R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ ,  $(x, y, x, y, y, x) \in R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ , hence  $(x, y, x, x, y, x) \in (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^2 \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ , but  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^2 = \emptyset$ , consequently  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = R$ , and  $(x, y, x, x, y, x) \notin R \cup E_{\mathcal{K}} = R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ .

**3.10. Corollary.** *Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ .*

*Proof.* Similarly as in the proof of 3.8 (1) we get  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} \subseteq ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ . By 3.8 (2),  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ , consequently, by 3.3 and 3.2,  $((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} \subseteq ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ . Thus,  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)} = ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(t)}$ .  $\square$

**3.11. Proposition.** *Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ . Then the following relations exist:*

- (1) the cyclic hull  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)}$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and we have  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}^i R_{\mathcal{K}}$ ,
- (2) the symmetric hull  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$  of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  and we have

$$R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} (\dots (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i}.$$

*Proof.* (1) As  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = R_{\mathcal{K}, \pi}^{(s)}$ , we have, by 3.6 (2),  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R_{\mathcal{K}, \pi}^i = R \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}^i R_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

(2) Put  $Q = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} (\dots (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i}$ . By 1.6 (1), we have  $R = R_{\mathcal{K}, \text{id}} \subseteq Q$ . Let  $\xi \in S_n$ .

By Proposition 1.16 (5),  $Q_{\mathcal{K}, \xi} = (\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} (\dots (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i})_{\mathcal{K}, \xi} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} ((\dots (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i})_{\mathcal{K}, \xi} \subseteq Q$ , and  $Q$  is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Now, let  $R \subseteq T$  where  $T$  is symmetric w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Then, by 1.16 (4),

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} (\dots (R_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i} \\ &\subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_i \in S_n} (\dots (T_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_1})_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_2} \dots)_{\mathcal{K}, \psi_i} \subseteq T. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $Q$  is the symmetric hull of  $R$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . □

**3.12. Proposition.** *Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation, let  $\mathcal{K}$  be an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ .*

- (1) *If  $R$  is reflexive (irreflexive, complete) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)}$  and  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$  have the same property.*
- (2) *If  $R$  is symmetric (antisymmetric) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , then  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$  has the same property.*

*Proof.* Let  $R$  be reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Then  $E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R$ . But  $R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)}, R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ , hence  $E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R^{(c)}, E_{\mathcal{K}} \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ , and both  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)}$  and  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$  are reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . Let  $R$  be irreflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . By 2.2 (3),  ${}^1 R_{\mathcal{K}} = R_{\mathcal{K}, \pi}$  is irreflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . It follows by induction that  ${}^i R_{\mathcal{K}}$  is irreflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . By 3.11 (1),  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} {}^i R_{\mathcal{K}}$ .

Hence, again by 2.2 (3),  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)}$  is irreflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ . The other properties can be easily verified with the aid of 2.2 (3), 3.11 (2), 3.3 (1), and 3.7 (1). □

**3.13. Corollary.** Let  $R \subseteq G^H$  be a relation,  $\mathcal{K}$  an  $n$ -decomposition of the set  $H$ ,  $\psi \in S_n$ . Then

- (1)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ .
- (2)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ .
- (3)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{(s)} = (R_{\mathcal{K},\psi}^{(s)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)} = R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ .
- (4)  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(c)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)} = R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ .

*Proof.* (1) follows from 3.8 (1) for  $\psi = \pi$ .

(2) As  $R \subseteq R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ , we have, by 3.3,  $R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ , and again by 3.3,  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq ((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ . By 3.12 (1),  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$  is reflexive w.r.t.  $\mathcal{K}$ , consequently, by 3.2,  $((R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} = (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ . Thus  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)}$ . Similarly, using 3.3, 3.12 (2) and 3.2, we obtain  $(R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)} \subseteq (R_{\mathcal{K}}^{(d)})_{\mathcal{K}}^{(r)}$ , which proves the assertion.

(3) follows from 3.3 and 3.2.

(4) is a special case of (3). □

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